

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-156: (Canceled)

Claims 157-191: (Canceled)

Claim 192: (Currently amended) A method of communicating information, from a calling party ~~using a telephone~~ connected to a telephone network that automatically provides caller identification information, to a called party having a portable communication device that is pageable by a paging ~~network~~ system in communication with a ~~telephone answering apparatus~~ message center, such ~~telephone answering apparatus~~ message center in communication with the telephone network, ~~the network~~ comprising the steps of:

receiving at the ~~telephone answering apparatus~~ message center caller identification information, pertinent to the telephone of the calling party, provided automatically by the telephone network;

transmitting the caller identification information from the ~~telephone answering apparatus~~ message center to the paging ~~network~~ system; and

transmitting the caller identification information from the paging ~~network~~ system to the portable communication device.

Claim 193: (Currently amended) The method of Claim 192, wherein the ~~telephone answering apparatus~~ message center is connected to the paging ~~network~~ system and the caller identification information is transmitted from the ~~telephone answering apparatus~~ message center to the paging ~~network~~ system over a direct connection.

Claim 194: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 192, wherein the caller identification information comprises numeric data.

Claim 195: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 192, wherein the caller identification information comprises alphanumeric data.

Claim 196: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 192, wherein the caller identification number is provided as FSK data.

Claim 197: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 192, wherein the caller identification information is provided from an ISDN connection.

Claim 198: (Currently amended) The method of Claim 192, further comprising:
obtaining verification from the calling party prior to transmitting the caller identification information to the paging-~~network~~ system.

Claim 199: (Currently amended) The method of Claim 192, further comprising:
obtaining optional data from the calling party prior to transmitting the caller identification information to the paging-~~network~~ system;

transmitting the optional data from the ~~telephone answering apparatus~~ message center to the paging-~~network~~ system; and

transmitting the optional data from the paging—~~network~~ system to the portable communication device.

Claim 200: (Cancel)

Claim 201: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 199, further comprising:

compressing the optional data prior to transmission of the optional data to the portable communication device.

Claim 202: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 199, further comprising:

encrypting the optional data prior to transmission of the optional data to the portable communication device.

Claim 203: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 199, wherein the optional data is comprised of a voice or video message which is transmitted to the portable communication device with the caller identification information.

Claim 204: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 203, wherein the optional data is compressed prior to transmission to the portable communication device.

Claim 205: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 203, wherein the optional data is encrypted prior to transmission to the portable communication device.

Claim 206: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 199, further comprising:

storing the caller identification information and the optional data in contiguous memory locations in the portable communication device.

Claim 207: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 199, further comprising:

storing the caller identification information and the optional data in associated non-contiguous memory locations in the portable communication device.

Claim 208: (Currently amended) The method of Claim 199, further comprising:

comparing the received caller identification information with information stored in an associated memory ~~to~~ in the telephone answering apparatus message center; and

selectively transmitting the caller identification information to the ~~paging network~~ portable communication device as a result of the comparison.

Claim 209: (Currently amended) The method of Claim 208, wherein the caller identification information is transmitted to the ~~paging network~~ portable communication device only if the received caller identification information matches an entry in the associated memory.

Claim 210: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 192, further comprising:
at the portable communication device, annunciating the caller identification information.

Claim 211: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 210, further comprising:
simultaneously displaying the caller identification data on a display of the portable communication device.

Claim 212: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 192, further comprising:
storing the caller identification information within the portable communication device;
and
initiating a new connection over the telephone network by transmitting the stored caller identification data to the telephone network.

Claim 213: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 192, and further comprising:
storing the caller identification information within the portable communication device;
and
initiating a new connection over a cellular telephone network by transmitting the stored caller identification data to the cellular telephone network.

Claim 214: (Currently amended) The method of Claim 192, wherein the paging-network system is includes a cellular communication network and the portable communication device comprises a combined cellular telephone device and pager device.

Claim 215: (Currently amended) The method of Claim 214, wherein the ~~paging-network~~ system transmits the caller identification information to the portable communication device utilizing the cellular communication network.

Claim 216: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 192, further comprising:

indicating to the called party that a message has been received;

accepting a password entered by the called party into the portable communication device;

and

providing voice signals representative of the caller identification data to the called party only upon entry of a valid password.

Claim 217: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 192, wherein the portable communication device comprises a portable computing device having radio communications capabilities.

Claim 218: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 217, wherein the portable computing device comprises a personal digital assistant.

Claim 219: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 217, wherein the portable computing device has two-way radio communications capabilities.

Claim 220: (Previously presented) The method of Claim 192, further comprising:

applying the caller identification information to a voice synthesizer unit to generate voice signals representative of the caller identification information at the portable communication device.

Claim 221: (Currently amended) The method of Claim 199, further comprising:

storing the caller identification information and the optional data in contiguous memory locations by the ~~telephone answering apparatus~~ message center.

Claim 222: (Currently amended) The method of Claim 199, further comprising:

storing the caller identification information and the optional data in associated non-contiguous memory locations by the ~~telephone answering apparatus~~ message center.

Claim 223: (New) A method of communicating information from a calling party connected to a telephone network that automatically provides caller identification information to a called party having a portable communication device that is pageable by a paging system in communication with a message center, such message center in communication with the telephone network, comprising the steps of:

receiving at the message center caller identification information pertinent to the telephone of the calling party provided automatically by the telephone network;

transmitting the caller identification information from the message center to the paging system;

transmitting the caller identification information from the paging system to the portable communication device;

obtaining optional data from the calling party prior to transmitting the caller identification information to the paging system, the optional data comprising at least one of a voice, video, image or textual message; and,

transmitting the optional data from the message center to the paging system;